

2008 Hawai‘i Legislative Outcomes

| MEASURE/WEB ADDRESS | PURPOSE | COMMENT |
|--|---|---|
| <p>SB2542: RELATING TO PUBLIC HEALTH</p> <p>http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2008/bills/sb2542_cd1 .htm</p> | <p>Appropriates an additional \$1 million for primary care for the uninsured. Rewrites sections of Medicaid prospective payment system rules for FQHCs that pertain to reconciliation payment timelines, rate revisions for changes in scope, and for prenatal care.</p> | <p>HPCA’s key legislative item for 2008. \$1 million for uninsured will be added to the DOH base of nearly \$3.5 million. Services covered include primary medical, dental, and mental health services.</p> |
| <p>SB 2459: Remote Dispensing Pharmacy; Medication</p> <p>http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2008/bills/sb2459_cd1 .htm</p> | <p>Permits FQHCs to operate remote dispensing pharmacies for uninsured patients and patients with QUEST coverage. New remote dispensing sites may not be developed within 5 miles of an existing pharmacy.</p> | <p>Limiting services to uninsured and QUEST and also restricting remote dispensing to at least 5 miles away from another pharmacy are disappointing provisions. However, the bill provides a compromise that allows FQHCs to prove the merits of their services and the basis for reasonable expansion in future.</p> |
| <p>HB2761: Relating to Women’s Health</p> <p>http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2008/Bills/HB2761_CD1 .htm</p> | <p>Requires Med-QUEST to offer 6 months of postnatal coverage.</p> | <p>This cost-effective public health measure supports access to care that should improve health and reduce unplanned pregnancies.</p> |
| <p>SB1802: Relating To Mental Health</p> <p>http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2008/bills/sb1802_cd1 .htm</p> <p>SB2041: Relating to Health</p> <p>http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2008/bills/sb2041_cd1 .htm</p> | <p>Provides an exception to the confidentiality of mental health records and allows disclosure of a person's treatment summary from a previous five-year period from one health care provider to another.</p> <p>Appropriates \$5,774,340 in state funds to match \$7,500,000 in federal funding for the disproportionate share hospital allowance.</p> | <p>Allowing appropriate sharing of mental health records among professionals will greatly improve coordination and quality of care for people with serious mental illnesses.</p> <p>Improving the financial viability of Hawaii’s disproportionate share hospitals improves health care access and quality for all state residents.</p> |
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| <p>HB2519: Relating To Health Care</p> <p>http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2008/bills/hb2519_cd1_.htm</p> <p>SB3171: Relating To Charitable Trusts And Nonprofit Organizations</p> <p>http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2008/Bills/SB3171_CD1_.htm</p> | <p>Establishes the working group to develop a plan to implement the Hawaii health corps program which will provide loan repayments to qualified physicians and dentists who agree to practice in rural or medically underserved areas of the state. The working group will consist of the directors of the Department of Health; Department of Human Services; and Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and a state senator and a state representative.</p> <p>Requires charitable trusts and nonprofits to register and file annual financial reports with the attorney general. Authorizes the attorney general to conduct investigations on possible violations. Prohibits contracting with unregistered solicitors. Requires a report submittal fee based on total revenue of organization. Appropriates funds to staff additional positions.</p> | <p>This bill originally created a health corps and a variety of recruitment and retention incentives for physicians and dentists. The final measure will study options and make recommendations for future state action and appropriation. The workgroup members limited to state department directors and legislators seems too restrictive but HPCA hopes and expects opportunities to provide input to the group..</p> <p>HPCA supports encouraging public faith in the integrity of charitable organizations by appropriate registration and monitoring, as is done in most other states. However, we believe this public purpose should be paid for by public funds and not by nonprofit organizations' registration fees. Pertains only to NPOs that solicit donations.</p> |